IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Original): A light emitting device which comprises a phosphor and a semiconductor light emitting element,

wherein the phosphor has Eu^{3+} as a luminescent center ion, wherein a minimum emission intensity of the phosphor within the excitation wavelength range of 380 nm to 410 nm in an excitation spectrum is 65% or more of a maximum emission intensity, and wherein the phosphor has an emission efficiency at 400 nm of 20% or more, and

wherein the semiconductor light emitting element emits light in the region from near-ultraviolet light to visible light.

Claim 2 (Original): The light emitting device according to claim 1, wherein said phosphor is a phosphor having a maximum emission intensity of 3 times or more the intensity of a peak around 465 nm which is in an excitation band of the f-f transition of Eu^{3+}, in the excitation spectrum.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): The light emitting device according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein said phosphor is a fluorescent complex having Eu^{3+}.

Claim 4 (Original): The light emitting device according to claim 3, wherein said phosphor is a fluorescent complex containing an aromatic group in a ligand.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The light emitting device according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1, wherein said phosphor is in a solid state.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): The light emitting device according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 5~~ claim 1, which emits white light.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): The light emitting device according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 6~~ claim 1, wherein said semiconductor light emitting element is a laser diode or light emitting diode, which emits light having a peak wavelength ranging from 370 nm to 470 nm.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): The light emitting device according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 7~~ claim 1, wherein an ultraviolet shielding treatment is performed so that said phosphor is not irradiated with ultraviolet rays of 350 nm or less.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): A lighting system which comprises the light emitting device according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 8~~ claim 1.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): An image display unit which comprises the light emitting device according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 8~~ claim 1.

Claim 11 (New) The light emitting device according to claim 1, which further comprises a blue phosphor and a green phosphor together with the phosphor.

Claim 12 (New) The light emitting device according to claim 1, which further comprises a inorganic phosphor together with the phosphor.

Claim 13 (New) The light emitting device according to claim 1,wherein the semiconductor light emitting element is a GaN-based emitting diode.

Claim 14 (New) A phosphor which has Eu^{3+} as a luminescent center ion, wherein a minimum emission intensity of the phosphor within the excitation wavelength range of 380 nm to 410 nm in an excitation spectrum is 65% or more of a maximum emission intensity, and the phosphor has an emission efficiency at 400 nm of 20% or more.

Claim 15 (New) A resin composition comprising the phosphor according to claim 14.